

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended to include limitations from claims 3 and 6, which are now cancelled. Claim 14 is similarly amended with limitations of claims 15 and 18, which are now cancelled. Claim 16 is cancelled without prejudice, and claims 4, 5, 7, 17, 20, 22, and 24 are amended to correct dependencies. Applicants reserve the right to pursue subject matter of the original claims (prior to amendment) and subject matter of the canceled claims in subsequent prosecution.

Claim 13 is canceled without prejudice in response to the restriction requirement. Applicants reserve the right to pursue patent coverage of claim 13 in divisional or continuing applications as may be deemed desirable.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-12, 14, 17, and 19-24 remain for consideration. All claims are thought to be allowable over the cited art.

The objection to claims 1 and 14 as being indefinite is respectfully traversed because the claim terminology is thought to be clear to those skilled in the art as the various embodiments are described in the written description that accompanies FIGs. 4-8 (paragraphs [0039] – [0054]). However, the rejection is now moot in view of the amendments made to the claims.

The Office Action fails to show that claims 1-6 and 13-18 are anticipated by US patent 6,823,497 to Schubert et al. (“Schubert”) under 35 USC §102(e). The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Action fails to show that all the limitations of the claims are taught by Schubert.

Claim 1, as amended to include limitations of claim 3, includes limitations of traversing depth-first a hierarchy of high-level blocks; generating, while traversing the hierarchy, associated compiler blocks for the high-level blocks, wherein each compiler block includes data that describes hardware ports associated with a high-level block and a name of an HDL component to be used to implement the compiler block; and generating, while traversing the hierarchy and in response to a high-level block in the hierarchy having no sub-blocks, an HDL component consistent with the clock requirements from the associated compiler block.

The cited portion of Schubert does not teach these limitations. For example, Schubert’s col. 13, l. 6-15 is cited as teaching the traversing depth-first a hierarchy of

high-level blocks. However, Schubert contains no apparent teaching or suggestion of a depth-first traversal of any hierarchy of high-level blocks. No hierarchy is mentioned, nor is there any apparent suggested approach for traversing a hierarchy. Further explanation is requested if the rejection is maintained.

Claim 1 includes further limitations of freeing memory associated with a compiler block after generating the HDL component from the compiler block and before generating an HDL component from another compiler block. The Office Action does not cite any specific portion of Schubert as teaching these limitations. Furthermore, there is no apparent suggestion of all the related limitations. If the rejection is maintained, a citation to a specific portion of Schubert is requested so that the matter may be further addressed.

Claim 14 includes limitations similar to those of claim 1 and is not shown to be anticipated for at least the reasons set forth above. Schubert does not appear to teach the limitations of the claims that depend from claims 1 and 14, and the Office Action fails to cite any specific teachings of Schubert as corresponding to the limitations of these claims. Therefore, claims 2, 4-5, 7-12, 14, 17, and 19-24 are not shown to be anticipated by Schubert.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-22, 4-5, 7-12, 14, 17, and 19-24 as being anticipated by Schubert is respectfully for the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

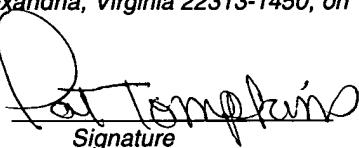
Reconsideration and a notice of allowance are respectfully requested in view of the Remarks presented above. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

Respectfully submitted,


Kim Kanzaki, Ph.D.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,652

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on January 26, 2006.

Pat Tompkins
Name


Signature